Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 01134 051049Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00
STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 /100 W
----------107017 060009Z /64
R 050920Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8401
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1134

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR PDIP ETRD LA TH
SUBJECT: THAI RESTRICTIONS ON THAI-ORIGIN EXPORTS TO LAOS

REF: A VIENTIANE 1104 B 75 VIENTIANE 6631

1. THE MANAGER OF THE LPDR RUN DIPLOMATIC SHOP IN VIENTIANE HAS APPROACHED VARIOUS EMBASSIES TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE IN SECURING THAI PERMISSION TO IMPORT MERCHANDISE AND FOOD FOR THE SHOP. HIS APPROACHES FOLLOWED THE LPDR FOREIGN MINISTRY'S REFUSAL TO SUBMIT A FORMAL REQUEST TO THE THAI EMBASSY FOR THE IMPORT OF GOODS FOR THE SHOP.

2. THAI IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON THE IMPORT OF GOODS FROM THAILAND, REQUIRE THAT IMPORTERS IN LAOS OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FOR IMPORT FROM THE LAO FOREIGN MINISTRY
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 01134 051049Z

AND THAN MAKE A REQUEST TO THE THAI EMBASSY WHICH, IN TURN, FORWARDS THE REQUEST TO BANGKOK (AS OUTLINED REF A).

3. THE SHOP MANAGER TOLD US THAT THE U.N. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE HAD AGREED TO MAKE A DEMARCHE TO THE THAI EMBASSY ON BEHALF OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

REQUESTING THAT THE THAI GOVERNMENT PERMIT THE IMPORT OF SUPPLIES FOR THE DIPLOMATIC SHOP. HE SAID THAT HE WAS REQUESTING ALL EMBASSIES TO WRITE LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO THE U.N. RESREP.

4. THE U.N. RESREP, HOWEVER, TOLD US THAT HE HAD AGREED ONLY TO CONSIDER MAKING A DEMARCHE TO THE THAI EMBASSY ON BEHALF OF THE U.N. COMMUNITY AND THAT IN SUCH A DEMARCHE HE MIGHT ALLUDE TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS NOT SOLICITING DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT FOR SUCH A DEMARCHE.

5. THE SHOP MANAGER ALSO REPORTEDLY APPROACHED THE DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS (THE PRC AMBASSADOR), REQUESTING HE MAKE A DEMARCHE TO THE THAI EMBASSY ON BEHALF OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY BUT THE DEAN REFUSED.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE DIPLOMATIC SHOP IS A PROFIT MAKING INSTITUTION FOR THE LPDR, THE LAO ARE APPARENTLY AT THIS TIME UNWILLING TO APPEAL TO THE THAI ON THE QUESTION OF SUPPLIES FOR THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY. RATHER, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE LPDR MAY AGAIN ATTEMPT, AS IT DID IN DECEMBER 1975, TO USE THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY AS A CAT'S PAW IN ITS LARGER QUARREL WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 VIENTI 01134 051049Z

THAI OVER THAI RESTRICTIONS ON ALL THAI ORIGIN EXPORTS TO LAOS (REF B). THE THAI, FOR THEIR PART, ARE NOT GOING TO MAKE MANY FRIENDS FOR THEMSELVES IN THE VIENTIANE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770890/aaaacykb.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: THAI RESTRICTIONS ON THAI-ORIGIN EXPORTS TO LAOS
TAGS: PBOR, PDIP, ETRD, LA, TH
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Type: TE
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22 May 2009
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